

Message Text

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71

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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3209

INFO/USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS TRIPOLI 0561

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BPRO

SUBJECT: FCIA CREDIT INSURANCE REQUEST TO COVER SALES OF
INTERCITY BUSES AND SUPPORT VEHICLES TO ARAB FEDERAL
CO FOR LAND TRANSPORT

1. WE HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE PROPOSED SALE AND POSE
NO OBJECTION EXIM BANK CONSIDERATION REQUEST FOR CREDIT
INSURANCE.

2. OUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ARAB FEDERAL
COMPANY FOR LAND TRANSPORT, SENT FEB 22, HAS NOT BEEN
ANSWERED. COMPANY WAS ESTABLISHED AS ONE OF A
NUMBER JOINT VENTURES SET UP IN 1972 AND 1973 UNDER
SCHEME OF UNITY OR FEDERATION BETWEEN SYRIA, EGYPT
AND LIBYA. THE FEDERATION OF ARAB REPUBLIC (FAR)
OFFICES IN CAIRO PRESUMABLY ISSUES TENDER WHICH WAS
FIRST REPORTED BY AMEMBASSY CAIRO (REFTEL B).

3. WHILE WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION, THE
BUSES ARE PROBABLY INTENDED FOR LONG DISTANCE CIVILIAN
USE BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES BUT BASED IN LIBYA,
SYRIA AND EGYPT.

4. WE ARE PUZZLED BY LIBYAN CENTRAL BANK
GUARANTEE FOR TRANSACTION. VIRTUALLY ALL LIBYAN TRADE
IS DONE ON LOC BASES. BOYCOTT CONDITIONS WILL
ALMOST CERTAINLY BE APPLIED IN ANY LIBYAN SHARE
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OF FINANCING.

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